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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/852,244	05/10/2001	Gordon Good	033048-058	4076
21839	7590	07/28/2004	EXAMINER	
BURNS DOANE SWECKER & MATHIS L L P POST OFFICE BOX 1404 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404				NORRIS, TREMAYNE M
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		2137		

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/852,244	GOOD, GORDON
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Tremayne M. Norris	2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 May 2001.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 10 May 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rothermel et al (US pat 6,678,827).

Regarding claim 1, Rothermel teaches a method for automatically provisioning a plurality of computing devices in accordance with established policies, the method comprising the steps of :

creating a plurality of templates reflecting said policies;
expanding at least one template at a central location; and
providing the expanded information to said plurality of computing devices (col.4 line 49 thru col.5 line 13).

Regarding claim 2, Rothermel teaches interpreting the expanded information by agents which are respectively resident on each of said plurality of computing devices (col.5 lines 32-35).

Regarding claim 3, Rothermel teaches the structure of said plurality of templates includes conditional statements (col.4 lines 30-62; col.5 lines 60-67).

Regarding claim 4, Rohtermel teaches at least one of the plurality of templates reflects policies applicable to all of the plurality of computing devices (col.6 lines 20-32).

Regarding claim 5, Rothermel teaches at least one of the plurality of templates reflects policies applicable to a subset of the plurality of computing devices (col.6 lines 20-32).

Regarding claim 6, Rothermel teaches at least one of the plurality of templates reflects policies applicable to a particular type of the plurality of computing devices (col.6 lines 20-32).

Regarding claim 7, Rothermel teaches said policies are security polices regarding access to the plurality of computing devices (col.1 lines 22-35).

Regarding claim 8, Rothermel teaches a system for automatically provisioning a plurality of computing devices in accordance with established policies, the system comprising:

a database system which stores a plurality of templates which reflect said polices (col.6 lines 56-60);

a plurality of agents which are respectively resident on each of said plurality of computing devices, and which communicate with said database system to obtain information with regard to provisioning and maintenance of the respective computing devices; and

a communications gateway through which communication messages are exchanged between said agents and said database system, wherein said communications gateway is configured to:

retrieve the plurality of templates;

expand the plurality templates', and

provided the expanded information to said plurality of agents (col.4 line 49 thru col.5 line 13).

Claims 9-13 are substantially equivalent to claims 3-7 respectively, therefore claims 9-13 are rejected because of similar rationale.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tremayne M. Norris whose telephone number is (703) 305-8045. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30AM-5:00PM alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on (703) 306-3036. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Tremayne Norris

July 13, 2004


MATTHEW SMITHERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 2137